

ARGUMENT Against Proposition 1A

We should protect local taxpayers, not irresponsible spending by local governments. Vote NO on Proposition 1A.

As Chairwoman of the State Board of Equalization, I know that too many branches of government waste too much money.

Proposition 1A gives local governments a spending guarantee without any fiscal accountability or oversight. It's a blank check for spending and turns a blind eye to waste.

Did you know that the City of Stockton is emptying its cash reserves to build a downtown arena, but at the same time they're trying to raise taxes to pay for police officers and firefighters? They've got their priorities backwards.

Did you know that the City of Los Angeles raised their water rates, but at the same time they're being audited for wasting millions on unnecessary public relations contracts?

California has a responsibility to help and support local governments. We are all in this together. But NO one should be exempt from fiscal oversight and accountability. Checks and balances are essential.

Public schools in California are funded by Proposition 98. But in 1988, California's teachers included specific language to hold school districts accountable for the money they spend.

There is NO fiscal accountability provision in Proposition 1A.

Every new school bond we've placed on the ballot contains specific accountability provisions to guarantee that the money is spent the way the voters intend.

There is NO fiscal accountability provision in Proposition 1A.

Every one of California's Water, Parks, and Wildlife bonds had strict accountability provisions.

There is NO fiscal accountability provision in Proposition 1A.

California is facing serious budget challenges. There have been great sacrifices made to meet those challenges... cuts in children's health care, nursing home care, and college admissions.

Why should local politicians get a blank check? I say NO they shouldn't. Why should local politicians get a guarantee that sick children don't get? I say NO they shouldn't.

This NO fiscal accountability Proposition deserves a NO vote!

Please join me in voting NO on Proposition 1A.

CAROLE MIGDEN, *Chairwoman*
State Board of Equalization

REBUTTAL to Argument Against Proposition 1A

Contrary to misleading claims made by the opponent of 1A, **THIS MEASURE INCREASES FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY.**

Prop. 1A increases local budget accountability by keeping tax dollars close to home, where voters have more control.

Prop. 1A will also make the State more accountable by preventing it from taking and using local government funds—except in a fiscal emergency.

FOR YEARS, *THE STATE HAS HAD A BLANK CHECK* to take your local tax dollars. PROP. 1A *TEARS UP THAT BLANK CHECK* and requires the State to live within its means.

The opponent would have you believe the State is in a better position to manage your local tax dollars than your city or county leaders. In fact, over the past decade, cities and counties have tightened their belts, increased accountability, and prioritized spending for essential local services.

Prop. 1A does NOT increase local government funding and does not take one dime from schools, state health care services, or any other state program or service.

Prop. 1A does NOT increase taxes. The measure *PROTECTS EXISTING LOCAL TAX DOLLARS—WHICH ARE USED TO PROVIDE FIREFIGHTING, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EMERGENCY ROOM CARE, PARAMEDIC RESPONSE, and other essential local services.*

Prop. 1A supporters know it's time to end business as usual in Sacramento and stop the State from taking and using local government funds.

Join Governor Schwarzenegger, firefighters, law enforcement officers, paramedics, and taxpayer groups.

PROTECT LOCAL TAXPAYERS AND PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES. VOTE YES on 1A.

SENATOR TOM TORLAKSON, *Chair*
Senate Committee on Local Government

LOU PAULSON, *President*
California Professional Firefighters

CAM SANCHEZ, *President*
California Police Chiefs Association